United Nations A/65/161/Corr.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 October 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session
Agenda items 128 and 129

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 63/261 on the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

1. Corner notation

The agenda items on document A/65/161 should read as above.

2. Paragraph 59

For the existing text *substitute*

59. The Security Council increasingly relies on and mandates political field missions to support peace processes (UNMIN), to work with multinational forces in very insecure environments (UNPOS and UNAMI), and to protect peacekeeping investments (BINUB and UNIPSIL). the Department of Field Support, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs have worked together to improve collaboration and mutual institutional support. Member States have also made considerable investments in rapidly deployable capacities to support peacekeeping operations, in particular in the areas of security sector reform, corrections and policing. The Department of Political Affairs is assessing options for field missions led by that Department to allow for easier access to those capacities, including improvements in rapid deployment, logistics and procurement in order to advance the Department's capacity to quickly respond to Security Council mandate changes and in-country political transitions. In addition, the Department of Political Affairs does not have the ability to rapidly surge or decrease its headquarters capacity to backstop special political missions, which includes strategic planning and assessment, coordination with regional and subregional organizations and groups of friends, support for integration with United Nations country teams, and reporting requirements to intergovernmental bodies.

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3. Page 15

After paragraph 59, insert a new paragraph *reading*

59 bis. The implementation of the global field support strategy recently adopted by the General Assembly is expected to address some of the challenges in the field. Nevertheless, the aforementioned challenges remain and may require variable capacities to adequately backstop and manage political missions in line with their size and mandate. In that regard, I intend to present some proposals and options to the General Assembly, at its sixty-sixth session.

4. Paragraph 62

For the existing text *substitute*

62. However, pressures continue to grow. For instance, an additional 6 posts and 15 experts and consultants were approved in 2010 for special political missions, an increase of 30 per cent from the 2009 budget. Moreover, with the growth of the Department by 49 additional staff, the day-to-day human resources requirements of administering 275 staff (excluding staff attached to the special political missions) has increased.

5. Paragraph 63

For the existing text *substitute*

63. Given the transformation of the Department of Political Affairs and the increased demand for its services, assistance and rapid, on-the-ground response to a range of emerging political challenges, the Department does not have adequate funding resources for travel under the regular budget allocation for the Department. The regular budget covers only about a third of the Department's real travel costs, forcing it to resort to extrabudgetary funding in order to cover the travel necessary to carry out its mandates.

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Corrigendum

1. Corner notation

The agenda items on document A/65/161 should read as above.

2. Paragraphs 58-60

Delete paragraph 58 and replace paragraphs 59 and 60 with the following text:

59. The Security Council increasingly relies on and mandates political field missions to support peace processes (UNMIN), to work with multinational forces in very insecure environments (UNPOS and UNAMI), and to protect peacekeeping investments (BINUB and UNIPSIL). The Department of Field Support, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs have worked together to improve collaboration and mutual institutional support. Member States have also made considerable investments in rapidly deployable capacities to support peacekeeping operations, in particular in the areas of security sector reform, corrections and policing. The Department of Political Affairs is assessing options for field missions led by that Department to allow for easier access to those capacities, including improvements in rapid deployment, logistics and procurement in order to advance the Department's capacity to quickly respond to Security Council mandate changes and in-country political transitions. In addition, the Department of Political Affairs does not have the ability to rapidly surge or decrease its headquarters capacity to backstop special political missions, which includes strategic planning and assessment, coordination with regional and

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subregional organizations and groups of friends, support for integration with United Nations country teams, and reporting requirements to intergovernmental bodies.

60. The implementation of the global field support strategy recently adopted by the General Assembly is expected to address some of the challenges in the field. Nevertheless, the aforementioned challenges remain and may require variable capacities to adequately backstop and manage political missions in line with their size and mandate. In that regard, I intend to present some proposals and options to the General Assembly, at its sixty-sixth session.

3. Paragraph 62

For the existing text *substitute*

62. However, pressures continue to grow. For instance, an additional 6 posts and 15 experts and consultants were approved in 2010 for special political missions, an increase of 30 per cent from the 2009 budget. Moreover, with the growth of the Department by 49 additional staff, the day-to-day human resources requirements of administering 275 staff (excluding staff attached to the special political missions) has increased.

4. Paragraph 63

For the existing text *substitute*

63. Given the transformation of the Department of Political Affairs and the increased demand for its services, assistance and rapid, on-the-ground response to a range of emerging political challenges, the Department does not have adequate funding resources for travel under the regular budget allocation for the Department. The regular budget covers only about a third of the Department's real travel costs, forcing it to resort to extrabudgetary funding in order to cover the travel necessary to carry out its mandates.